

Memorandum

To: Melissa Jones
Executive Director

Date: July 30, 2010

Telephone: (916) 654-5013

From: **California Energy Commission**
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento CA 95814-5512

Valerie T. Hall, Deputy Director
Efficiency and Renewable Energy Division

Subject: **STAFF RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE REQUEST BY CALIFORNIA HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY RATING SERVICES (CHEERS) TO BE DECERTIFIED AS A HOME ENERGY RATING SYSTEM (HERS) PROVIDER FOR HERS RATERS CONDUCTING FIELD VERIFICATION AND DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FOR THE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED BUILDINGS AND NEW SOLAR HOMES PARTNERSHIP (NSHP) PROGRAMS; TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE AUGUST 25, 2010 BUSINESS MEETING**

Summary of Item

On November 18, 2009, the Energy Commission approved CHEERS as a HERS Provider for HERS Raters conducting field verification and diagnostic testing for showing compliance with the *2008 Building Energy Efficiency Standards* on Newly Constructed Buildings, Alterations and NSHP programs.

The approval of CHEERS by the Energy Commission encompassed the HERS Rater training program and the CHEERS registry and database, which is used to register the compliance documentation and store the data for each rating project conducted by a rater. At the time of approval, CHEERS used the same basic design, referred to as the navigator, for Newly Constructed Buildings, Alterations, and the NSHP programs.

On July 2, 2010, the CHEERS Operations Manager informed staff that CHEERS would no longer be using the navigator that had been approved at the November 18, 2009, business meeting for Newly Constructed Buildings and for NSHP, but would continue to use the approved navigator for alterations projects. On August 3, 2010, the CHEERS Board of Directors formally requested that CHEERS be decertified as a Home Energy Rating System Provider for Newly Constructed Buildings and NSHP Programs, as CHEERS was no longer using the Energy Commission-approved registry and database for these programs while they undertake a software update. The request *does not* include decertification of CHEERS as a HERS Provider for HERS Raters conducting field verification and diagnostic testing of Alterations, as the registry and database being used for Alterations is unaffected by the CHEERS software update.

A new registry and database program is being developed for the Newly Constructed Buildings and NSHP programs. This change from the Energy Commission-approved registry and database necessitates the decertification of CHEERS for Newly Constructed Buildings and NSHP programs, until such a time that the new registry and database for these categories has been completed by CHEERS, submitted for review by Energy Commission staff to ensure compliance with the HERS regulations, and approved at an Energy Commission business meeting in accordance with Title 20 HERS Regulations Section 1674(f).

Project Manager

Jim Holland, Building Standards Implementation Office

Business Meeting Participants

Jim Holland, Building Standards Implementation Office

Commission Action Requested

Approve CHEERS' request to be decertified as a HERS Provider for HERS Raters conducting field verification and diagnostic testing for showing compliance with the *2008 Building Energy Efficiency Standards* on Newly Constructed Buildings and NSHP programs.

VALERIE T. HALL, Deputy Director
Efficiency and Renewable Energy Division